

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 00292 111245Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 L-03

OES-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-02 INR-07

NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09 /073 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6882

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 0292

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, AORG, EWWT, IMCO, IV

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVES ON TANKER SAFETY AND POLLUTION
PREVENTION - PREPARATIONS FOR PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE IN LONDON
ON FEBRUARY 6-17, 1978.

REF: STATE 296444 (77)

1. ON 6 JANUARY EMBOFF MET WITH CHEF DE CABINET MEMA SOUMAHORO OF THE GOIC MINISTRY OF MARINE TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT CONFERENCE. SOUMAHORO EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOIC REMAINS STRONGLY INTERESTED IN A RESOLUTION OF MARINE POLLUTION PROBLEMS. ALTHOUGH IVORY COAST DID NOT ATTEND THE JOINT MSC/MEPC MEETING IN OCTOBER, THE GOIC EXPECTS TO HAVE REPRESENTATION AT THE FEBRUARY CONFERENCE. BECAUSE OF CURRENT HEAVY DEMANDS ON THE MINISTRY STAFF, A DECISION HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER THE GOIC WILL BE REPRESENTED BY A MINISTRY DELEGATION OR BY THE IVORY COAST EMBASSY IN LONDON.

2. SOUMAHORO STATED THAT THE GOIC HAS BEEN FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE U.S. PROPOSALS AND, AT THIS POINT, HAS NO DISAGREEMENT WITH THEM. HIS MINISTRY, HOWEVER, HAS NOT YET RECEIVED COPIES OF THE MSC/MEPC ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS OR OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE OCTOBER MEETING AND, THUS, HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO MAKE A COMPARATIVE STUDY. SOUMAHORO EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOIC, IN LINE WITH THE CUR-
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RENT POLICY OF CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE MARITIME STATES OF WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA, WILL CONSULT WITH OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS BEFORE COMING TO A FIRM DECISION ON THE PROPOSALS TO BE PLACED BEFORE THE LONDON CONFERENCE. ALTHOUGH HE COULD NOT STATE WHEN AND HOW THESE CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT, THE IMPLICATION WAS THAT THE GOIC DECISION IS LIKELY TO REFLECT A CONSENSUS OF INTERESTED AFRICAN MARITIME STATES.

STEARNS

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